

companies that protect and serve our local communities. I rise to honor the Van Guard Hose Company No. 1 in Patchogue, New York and its members, who this year are celebrating the 120th anniversary of its founding.

In the summer of 1890, local residents determined that the Patchogue Fire Department was unable to adequately respond to fire emergencies in the southern section of the Village of Patchogue when Captain G.G. Horton's barn was destroyed by fire. Due to this unfortunate event, these local residents formed the Van Guard Hose Company.

Residents requested the purchase of a hose cart and the fire directors of Patchogue Fire Department granted the purchase of a two-wheeled cart and 500 feet of hose. Chief Edwin Bailey, the department's first chief, was tasked with determining the location to house the new equipment.

Fourteen residents came together to form the present company for its regular meeting on January 13, 1891 at the home of Mrs. Alfred C. Mott, a resident of southern Patchogue. Today, Van Guard Hose Company No. 1, located just down the street from where the company first met, has grown to 63 members who bravely and selflessly serve their community.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great comfort to know that Long Island is still a collection of communities where neighbors look out for one another, as they did back in the 1890s. I'm proud to represent Van Guard Hose Company No. 1 and its members in the House of Representatives. I offer my congratulations on this milestone and wish them well for many years of continued service to the Patchogue Fire District.

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HONORING MITCHELL RYAN  
KOVAC

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**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2011*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Mitchell Ryan Kovac. Mitchell is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Mitchell has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Mitchell has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Mitchell has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Mitchell Ryan Kovac for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING KATHLEEN CAREY  
MIHM

**HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2011*

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of the 22nd Congressional District of New York, Ms. Kathleen Carey Mihm. Kathy, as she is fondly known to family and friends, is a warm, witty and insightful woman who has dedicated her professional life to public service and, in doing so, has made a lasting contribution to her community.

A native of Kingston, Kathy grew up in a lively Irish family with nine brothers and sisters. She graduated from Kingston High School and went on to pursue advanced study at Ulster County Community College. Kathy began her public career as the Village of Rosendale Clerk, followed by two consecutive terms as a member of the Ulster County Legislature. In 1985, she began a distinguished career with the Ulster County Board of Elections. Kathy served as Deputy Commissioner under the late Harry Castiglione and then, after a brief time as Clerk of the Legislature, was appointed as Commissioner of Elections for the Democratic Party.

During her tenure with the Elections Board, Kathy was a tremendous asset to the voting public of Ulster County. She understood that the fundamental mission of the Board of Elections is to serve the voting public in a bipartisan manner. She worked hard and was diligent in her efforts to ensure that every eligible vote was counted. Kathy retired in December of last year in order to spend more time with her two children and four grandchildren. She has left behind a lasting legacy of honor and integrity.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Kathleen Carey Mihm for more than twenty-five years. She has been a dear friend and a valued adviser and we have worked closely on many issues of importance to the residents of Ulster County. Her work on behalf of the Board of Elections and her community was both inspiring and commendable. It is with great pleasure that I recognize her outstanding contributions and achievements.

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IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2011  
FAIRFAX COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

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**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2011*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the volunteers who assist the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office. These volunteers work with deputies and civilian staff to help inmates to improve their lives during incarceration and to prepare them for a successful transition back into the community.

With more than 500 deputies, the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office is the largest Sheriff's office in Virginia and among the largest in the country. These deputies perform invaluable services for Fairfax County residents which in-

clude providing court security, managing the detention center, and serving the civil law process. Volunteers with the Sheriff's Office help provide inmate programs and services at the Adult Detention Center (ADC) and Pre-Release Center, including mental health counseling, religious services, alcohol and drug support groups, health education, library services and job training.

Volunteers complete a Sheriff's Office training program and also work closely with staff to ensure that best practices are followed. A recent study completed at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center showed the significant impact that detention center rehabilitation programs can provide. The efforts of these volunteers improve the lives of those incarcerated, reduce recidivism, and make our communities safer.

Each year, the Sheriff's Office hosts a luncheon to thank all of the dedicated individuals who help make the volunteer program a success. It is my pleasure to recognize the honorees in each service area:

Alcohol and Drug Services—Nate Trager  
OAR—Opportunities, Alternatives, and Resources—Linda Rule  
Chaplain's Office—Norman J. Bacon  
Education—Bill Richey

The efforts of these individuals are particularly noteworthy, but I also want to acknowledge the nearly 300 volunteers who have contributed their time and support to the Sheriff's Office during the past year. These volunteers provide services that help to place inmates on a path to success. They offer their time that could be spent elsewhere to provide encouragement and support that will improve lives during incarceration and provide for a successful transition to help get inmates back on their feet. The efforts of each and every one of these volunteers are commendable and deserve our praise.

Sheriff Stan Barry and the staff of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office should be commended for their critical role in administering the volunteer program. The efforts of these staffers maximize the contributions of volunteers in the most effective way and provide the support that makes this program a success.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions of these individuals and all of the volunteers who support the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office. The selfless commitment of these individuals helps to provide enumerable benefits to our community and life-changing services to the inmates they serve.

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TRIBUTE TO MRS. ADA LEE  
PATRICK

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**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 12, 2011*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a member of my church, a devoted wife and mother, a Christian woman and a friend to many.

Mrs. Ada Lee Patrick was born in Holmes County, Mississippi, in 1948 and migrated with her family to Chicago, Illinois in 1957. She attended the local elementary and high school on the west side of Chicago. She was baptized at the Mt. Carmel Church and later